

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masahiko Matsukawa et al.

Application No.: 10/743,474

Confirmation No.: 8031

Filed: December 23, 2003

Art Unit: 1742

For: CHEMICAL CONVERSION COATING
AGENT AND SURFACE-TREATED METAL

Examiner: L. L. Zheng

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

I hereby certify, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)(1), that each item of information, except for Citations AA and AB, which are national stage US applications of Citations BA and BB, respectively, was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office (copy enclosed) in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is given. The relevance of Citations BA, BB, BD and BF can be found in their attached English abstracts. Also the relevance of Citations BA and BB can be found in Citations AA and AB, which are national stage US applications of Citations BA and BB, respectively. The relevance of Citation BC can be found in its attached English abstract and full Machine English translation. The relevance of Citation BE can be found in its partial English translation. Also, the relevance of Citation BF can be found in Citation BG, which is a family application of Citation BF, claiming the same priority.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00312-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Burton A. Amernick/
Burton A. Amernick
Registration No.: 24,852
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1875 Eye Street, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant